

# LITERARY EXAMINER.

Song for the Season.

BY ELIZA COOK.

Look out, look out, there are shadows about;  
The forest is dense with a gloomier brow;  
The willow tree sways with a gathering frown;  
Like a beautiful face with a gathering frown;  
"Tis true we all know that Summer must go,  
That the willow will never stay long in our  
carve."

But we'd rather be watching the wild rose blow,  
Than be counting the coloring of Autumn leaves!

Look high, look high, there's the lead-wing fly!  
Thinking he's king of a fairy realm,  
As he swings with delight on the gossamer tie,  
That is linked with the boughs of the sun-  
tipped elm!

Alas! poor thing, the first rustle will bring  
The pillars to dust, where your pleasure-ciao  
waives,  
And many a spirit like this will cling  
To hopes that depend upon Autumn leaves!

Look low, look low, the night-gale blows,  
And the restless forms in hectic red,  
Come whirling and sporting wherever we go,  
Lighter in dancing, as nearer the dead!  
Oh! who has not seen rare hearts, that have  
been  
Painted and painted, in garb that deceives,  
Dashing gaily along in their fluttering shawl,  
With despair at the core, like the Autumn leaves!

Look on, look on, the morn'g breaketh upon  
The hedge-row boughs, in their withering  
leaves,  
The distant orchard is sallow and wan,  
But the apple and nut gleam richly through.  
Oh! well will it be if our life, like the tree,  
Shall be found, mid the old time of green  
beauty,  
With the fruit of good works for the Planter to  
see  
Shining out in Truth's harvest, through Au-  
tumn leaves!

Merrily pour, as it sings and soars,  
The West wind, o'er the land and sea,  
Till it plays in the forest and moor and roars,  
Seemingly no longer a mischievous breeze!  
So music is best, till it meeteth a breast  
That is probed by the strain, while Memory  
grieves

To think it was sung by a loved one at rest,  
Then it comes like the sweet wind in Autumn  
leaves!

Not in an hour and a flower  
Stricken in freshness, and swept to decay;  
By gentle approach, the foot and the shower,  
Make ready the sap veins for falling away!  
And so is Man made up so peacefully dead,  
By the tear that he sheds, and the sigh that he  
hears,  
For he's loosened from earth by each trial-  
cloud's shade,  
Till he's willing to go as the Autumn leaves!

Look back, look back, and you'll find the track  
Of joy's dead leaves, all dry and black,  
And every yearning sighing more,  
But the soil is left, where the branches are shed,  
For the furrow to bring forth fairer leaves,  
And so is our trust in the Future spread  
In the gloom of Mortality's Autumn leaves!

## The Truist Friend.

BY CHARLES SWAIN.

There is a friend, a secret friend,  
In every trial, every grief,  
To cheer, to counsel, and defend—  
Of all we ever had the chief!

A friend, who watches from above,  
When'er in Error's path we tread,  
Still sought us with reproving love,  
That friend, that secret friend, is God!

There is a friend, a faithful friend,  
In every change and change of fate,  
Whose boundless love doth choose and send,  
When our friendships come too late!

A friend, that when the world deceives,  
And wearily we onward plod,  
Still comforts every heart that grieves,  
That friend, that faithful friend, is God!

How blest the years of life might flow,  
In one unbroken, unbroken trust;  
If man this truth would only know,  
And love his Maker, and be just!

Yes, there's a friend, a constant friend,  
Who ne'er forsakes the lowliest soul,  
But in each need, his hand doth lend,  
That friend, that truest friend, is God!

## The Religion of Paris.

Speaking of my friend, the Abbe, brings  
to mind his character and person.  
He used to remind me of that good Abbe of  
de France, who advised and consoled with  
the widowed mothers, and who figures in a  
long black robe, and broad-brimmed hat,  
in all the illustrated copies of "Paul and  
Virginia." But, my friend did not wear  
habitually his Church uniform, for his ears  
had been a large one in the country, and he  
had come like all Frenchmen, to the city  
for relief; he has even ventured upon a  
nice haunch of mutton with me upon Friday.  
For all this, he had far higher respect,  
and love for the spirit and observances for  
the Religion of the Metropolis, than I ever had  
myself.

Religion at Paris, always seemed to me  
more of a sentiment than a principle—that  
is to say, their Religion has more the liveli-  
ness of a feeling, than the earnestness of an  
absorbing duty. Except at times of funeral,  
one sees few earnest faces in the Parisian  
churches; they, the worshippers, do not  
leave wholly their gaiety at the door. They  
listen to the prayer and to the discourse, at-  
tenuated—rarely can you see more of at-  
tention; but it seemed to me always an at-  
tention fixed upon the eloquent lapse words,  
or some sweet mental image of the Virgin;  
an attention made grateful by the presence  
of the pictures, and the groined arches over  
head, and the fragrant odors of burning  
herbs—an attention, it may be most de-  
vout, with some fancied or real presence of  
God in the soul, but very rarely the at-  
tention of what Protestants call "a broken  
and contrite heart."

No people would be so intolerant of unadorned  
churches and poor preaching, as the  
Parisians. Nor would they altogether fan-  
cy the squalid habit of the Scotch presby-  
terians; they mean to be happier after a  
service than before it. Why a man should go  
to church to come away sadder, is what  
they cannot comprehend. I remember that  
Madame de Sevigne, in one of her letters  
to her daughter, gives this admirable com-  
ment upon one of the sermons of the great  
men of her time:

"Il fit le signe de la croix, il dit son texte;  
il ne nous granda point; il ne nous dit  
point d'injures; il nous pria de ne point  
craindre la mort, puis qu'elle était le seul  
passage que nous eussions pour ressusciter  
avec Jesus Christ—nous fumes tous con-  
tents." Ninon d'Enclos might have heard  
the same doctrine, and said as much of it,  
and as truthfully. And it is true of a great  
many discourses, which have not the redeem-  
ing excellences of Bourdaloue.

There is no such thing as Religious big-  
otry known at Paris—this would seem  
strange to a man fresh from such pleasant  
reading as the Chronicle of St. Bartholo-  
mew. St. Germain l'Auxerrois is still stand-  
ing, and its tower is still standing, from  
which, on that dreadful August night of  
1572, went out the first signal for slaugh-  
ter—but at the foot of it now, as you enter  
the door, an old man, with a gray shock  
of hair is standing, and sprinkles Holy water  
on you, from his home-bush brass. Inno-  
cent-looking priests glide up and down upon  
the pavement, and the sunlight streams  
through the stained windows—and it seemed  
to me, as I saw it flickering in rainbow  
colors over the gay columns—a sort of  
token, a new "covenant with promise" that  
no such Bartholomew slaughter should come  
again.

Every man in Paris seems satisfied with

his own Religion, and very careless about  
his neighbor's. Every sect follows its pe-  
culiar observances without hindrance; nay—  
the very church where the most zealous  
Calvinists worship, was granted them by the  
Government. Scarcely is there a Protestant  
church in the kingdom but receives some  
degree of administrative support. Even the  
first man in authority in the realm—M.  
Guizot, is a Protestant. And amid all the  
hatred to which minister is subjected,  
by his peace policy, one hears no odium  
thrown upon his Religious belief.—This is  
a thing apart—a thing speculative—a thing  
for noble reflections—a thing to lend a lit-  
tle mystery to verse—a sublime episode to  
life—a thing to render beauty attractive by  
adding devotional sentiments—a thing to  
add a little grace to companionship, by an  
unseen, but fully accredited tie—little else  
of Religion is recognized at Paris.

The Sunday at Paris is richly illustrative  
of the Religious tendencies of the people.  
It is the festive day of the week. The au-  
thorities give their finest military displays  
in the court of the palace;—the fountains  
of the gardens play in their best style;—  
the shops windows wear their richest ap-  
pearance;—the theatres show their best pieces;  
and the galleries of art are crowded with  
their gayest company. Yet it is not forgot-  
ten by the Parisians that the day has a sa-  
cred purpose. At the morning mass,—at  
an hour when many good Protestant peo-  
ple are dallying with sleep,—the pavement  
of Notre-Dame, and the Madeleine is cov-  
ered thick with kneeling worshippers, who  
say their beads, and say their prayers with  
the earnestness of true devotion.

I have many a time leaned against one of  
the beaded columns of the Madeleine, when  
the sun was just beginning to throw slanting  
rays through the windows of the roof, and  
listened meditatively to the broken chan-  
tings by the altar, or watched the comers,  
as they dipped their fingers in the Holy font,  
stepped lightly along the marble floor,—  
crossing themselves as they passed opposite  
the altar, and bowing to the sacred image,  
throwing a single rapid glance over the  
kneeling company, then stooping gently till  
their knees met the marble pavement, and  
began their silent Worship.

Perhaps it would be some poor girl seiz-  
ing those early hours, before the employ of  
the shop began, and hoping by the favor of  
the Virgin, under whose image she prays,  
for a happy stroll at evening with her lover,  
under the trees of the Champs Elysees.—  
Perhaps it is some lady in rich dress, with  
gold-clasped service book,—for there is this  
Religious beauty in the Catholic Church,  
that rank and wealth lose themselves amid  
the "crowd of witnesses," and there—the  
Countess kneels, with a begonia woman  
kneeling beside her—and they beg together  
for Grace.

Perhaps it is a gay postillion, in his crim-  
son-faced coat, who now comes tiptoeing  
along, looking grave, and crossing himself,  
and kneeling in a humble place, and gazing  
steadfastly upon the image of Christ that  
is over the altar. For a little time, his soul  
seems absorbed in the view, but now his eyes  
wander over the frescoes of the ceiling—  
the little bell tinkles—he remembers him-  
self, and bows his head. Now he rises  
and wanders stealthily to the door,—dips  
his hand in the Holy water,—turns his face  
to the Virgin,—bows—goes softly out—and  
in an hour thereafter, is shouting French  
oaths to his horses, on his way to the bor-  
ders of France.

Perhaps it is a stout Sergeant-de-ville,  
striding about with his chapeau under his  
arm, that meets your eye. His looks wan-  
der over the kneeling forms. He is least  
religious of all. If he prays, it is hurriedly,  
as if it were not his business, and he kneels,  
as if he rarely knelt. The people come  
and go, till the sun is fairly up in the  
sky, and the crowd disperses.

Sunday is the great day at the Cafe, and  
Restaurant; on no other day are their gains  
so great. The savings of the week, are lav-  
ished upon the indulgences of Sunday.  
Whoever dines upon a knuckle other days,  
luxuriates in a fricandeau on the *Dimanche*.  
Whoever dines at moderate prices the six  
days, dines at the *Trois Freres* the seventh;  
and who drinks ordinary wine the rest of  
the week, on Sunday orders the best.

The garden of the palace is full to over-  
flowing;—Versailles is crowded with Pa-  
risian company, and the Gallery of the Lou-  
vre on no other day is so thronged with  
visitors. The stall-men of the Champs Ely-  
sees, with their cakes, and games, and  
swings, drive their best bargains on Sun-  
day—the neocromancers, and sleight-of-hand  
men under the trees, are always at work on  
Sunday. The public balls are fullest—sol-  
diers are plentiful along the walks—omni-  
buses charge double prices;—and the public  
conscience seems lighter upon Sunday  
than any day of the week.

Parisian Religion with all that is good in  
it,—and its tender devotional sentiment is  
good, and its charity and liberality are good,  
has very little about it of that sturdy  
self-denial for "conscience sake," which  
makes the Protestant Religionist moral. In-  
deed, so much is Religion at Paris a senti-  
ment, and so little a principle, that it seems  
to adorn even profligacy, and the poor girl,  
thrown loose upon that luxuriously rolling  
side of Paris life, with eyes tearful before the  
Virgin in Notre-Dame—prays for constan-  
cy, and would as soon be without her  
crucifix, as without her lover.

Of the priesthood, there are without doubt  
very many who are vicious, and perhaps as  
many—certainly many, who are pure.—  
There are, it may be, many worthy, and  
well-meaning souls, in valleys of New  
England—possibly in other valleys—look-  
ing ever on Papacy as a scarlet-clad harlot,  
or a spotted beast, who will not accept even  
of Protestant testimony, to the fact, that  
human sympathies sometimes dwell under a  
Papal priest-robe. Yet however sad the  
truth may seem—it is even so. Nay—Or-  
thodoxy itself, sometimes lifts up its voice  
in Papal pulpits at Paris, and I am sure I  
have heard as honest doctrine as that of  
Massillon, in the discourses of to-day, and  
he who looks on Massillon as an unbeliev-  
er, has something to unlearn.

But the strong Protestant may find pure  
doctrine at Paris, beside such as may be  
winnowed from Romish sermons, through  
the colander of his prejudices;—in the very  
heart of the city, at the Oratoire, may be  
heard, every Sunday, the sternest Calvin-  
ism. The seats are always full: there are  
Swiss faces, and Saxon faces, and not a  
few French faces; and the hymns that are  
sung so quietly, and yet in so heartfelt a way,  
offer grateful contrast to the astounding mu-  
sic of the church of St. Eustache.

There is the little chapel of that Church  
of England which sends its Chaplains to  
every capital of Europe, and which offers

up its prayers for Her Majesty, and the  
realm, under every sky, and on every sea.  
A bishop reads those prayers at Paris, and  
one may listen—an American wanderer  
may listen, to good, sweet, home-sounding  
English, in performance of those sacred of-  
fices, which, if he be of New England edu-  
cation, are bound up in some measure with  
his being.

Religious truth is not so closely treasured  
in the hearts of the Parisian world, as that  
its ministers can exercise any considerable  
control over the public feeling. Intercourse  
between clergy and laity, seemed friendly  
and familiar—rarely dictatorial on the one  
side, or slavish on the other.

Many a time have I been with the good-  
natured Abbe, of whom I have spoken, on  
his parochial visits;—for there were some  
sheep of his old flock, who had found their  
way, like himself, to the Capital.

At the top of five pairs of stairs in a dark  
street near the Louvre, in a very old hotel,  
lived a quiet, deaf man, who had seen the  
Swiss guard shot down in the palace balco-  
ny, from his own window—who wore a  
grizzled brown wig, and the seams of sixty  
years in his cheeks; yet the old gentleman  
always bustled about in the liveliest possi-  
ble welcome, whenever the Abbe paid him  
a visit. A matronly-looking woman, in  
spectacles, the mistress of the house, always  
arranged a big arm-chair for the Abbe, and  
the three friends used to discourse together,  
and the tabby cat to purr upon the hearth-  
rug for all the world, as if they were true New  
England gossips; and just as three old peo-  
ple might do, who study Ganticle and Cate-  
chism, instead of Confessional and Creed.

The old, deaf man, prided himself on  
speaking six or seven words of English  
very fluently; but whenever I got beyond—  
good night, Sir—or, fine day, Sir, his deaf-  
ness grew upon him wonderfully.

A letter had come in one evening from a  
young English girl, who had been a pro-  
tector of the old man's, but who had now  
gone back to her home. The Abbe translat-  
ed it for him: it was a sweet letter, and  
touched the old man's heart, and I shall  
never forget the expression, with which,  
when the letter was ended, he repeated her  
name after the Abbe, and said—*cherie fille!*

I did not then know the story of her as-  
sociation with the old man, or it would not  
have seemed so strange; it was told me af-  
terwards, and if I was not writing notes of  
travel, I should take the trouble to set it  
down.

Clerie was a noble-hearted young fellow;  
another friend of the Abbe's, the only son  
of a wealthy gentleman, who lived some  
three leagues in the country. He was  
studying for the priesthood at one of the  
Parisian colleges; poor fellow! he never  
served his priesthood here.

I had come back from the Auvergne,  
full of life, and went through the old cor-  
ridor in the Rue de Seine, to see my friend  
the Abbe. He opened the door softly, and  
saw his priest-robe, and a solemn look; he  
shook my hand warmly, but pointed to a  
gray-haired man who was writing in the cor-  
ner, and put his finger on his lip.

Who is it? said I.  
Clerie's father, said he.  
And where is Clerie? said I.  
He died last night! and the Abbe put his  
finger on his lip, and turned to the old man.  
The old man was writing to his wife, tel-  
ling the mother how her only boy was dead.  
It was hard work to do it. No wonder that  
he bit the end of his quill; no wonder that  
he pressed his hand hard upon his forehead;  
no wonder the Abbe put his finger on his lip.

So, thought I, Death's gripe is very much  
the same thing here, that it is everywhere;  
else, and Religion, whatever it be, and  
however it soften, can not take away wholly  
the edge from human sorrow.

Mais il est heureux—but he is happy;  
said the Abbe; *il avait un bon curé*—he  
had a good heart.

And so there are a great many good hearts  
in Paris, though the Religion, as I said at  
the beginning; and the Abbe must pardon  
me; always seemed to me more of a senti-  
ment, than a principle.—*Fresh Gleanings,*  
4c.

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.—It used to  
be the fashion to say that English—our own  
canting tongue, as a quaint writer  
styles it—is an unmusical language;  
and even Byron, whose own melodious ver-  
ses show the infinite power and variety of  
our language, does not, in one of his mo-  
ments of impatient caprice, hesitate to  
describe it as

"Our harsh northern, whistling, grunting gut-  
tural,  
Which we're obliged to hiss, and spit, and sput-  
ter all."

Yet this is most ludicrously untrue. En-  
glish is to the full as noble and copious a  
tongue as that "miraculous language," the  
ancient Greek, and like it the appropriate  
vehicle to give forth to an admiring world,  
"Man's towering thoughts in lofty language  
dressed."

Besides, with the solitary exception of the  
Greek, as far as it is beyond all criti-  
cism, and compare, it is the most musical of  
languages that the children of clay have  
ever yet learned to use. That is to say,  
when properly and fully pronounced, judi-  
cially read, or wisely and feelingly recited.  
But the fact is, not one in every ten thou-  
sand—nay, peradventure not one in every  
hundred thousand—know how and feel how  
to justice in reading or recitation to our  
English tongue. Men may learn most  
things abroad in schools and colleges; but  
he secret is to read English well, the boy  
must learn to read at home, under the  
guidance of gentle and accomplished parents,  
who know how to read themselves, and  
have music in their souls. Read well, and  
you will disclose passages to the charmed  
ear in prose and verse—in Bacon, in  
Bolingbroke, in Burke, in Shakespeare, in  
Spencer, in Milton, and, in a host of others,  
the leaders of our mighty literature—which  
are altogether unequalled in fervor, grace,  
and melody, except in Greek.—*Fraser's Maga-*

PUNCH says: It may be proper to state  
that the distinguished personage, known  
among the ancients by the name of *Cupid*,  
has recently changed his name to *Cupidity*,  
and will hereafter devote his attention to  
matters of money, as well as love affairs.  
It may be as well to state that he has ex-  
changed his darts for dollars, as he now finds  
the jingle of the latter quite as effective as  
the keenness of the former.

He that lies in bed all a summer's morn-  
ing, loses the chief pleasure of the day: he  
that gives up his youth to indolence, under-  
goes a loss of the same kind.

The vulgar trace your faults; those you  
have in common with themselves: but they  
have no idea of your excellences, to which  
they have no pretensions.

In a heavy oppressive atmosphere, when  
the spirits sink too low, the best cordial is  
to read over all the letters of one's friends.

Birds.  
BY MISS JAMES GRAY.  
Joyous and happy creatures—  
Roamers of earth and air—  
Free children of the woods—  
Bright glaucous o'er the floods,  
Your homes are everywhere;  
Dear are ye, and familiar to the heart,  
Making of nature's loveliest things a part.

Ye are upon the mountains,  
With grand and lonely flight;  
Ye are upon the heath,  
The dear blue heaven beneath,  
Singing in wild delight;  
The rock doth shelter you, and many a nest,  
Amid the ledge by the lake, doth rest.

Ye skim the restless ocean,  
White-plumed, like fairy things;  
Ye haunt the inland river,  
And the sweeping willows quiver  
With the rustle of your wings;  
Through the dark pine your homeward way ye  
take.

Or drop to your lone nests in bush or brake.  
To you men bringeth gladness—  
The first red flush of day,  
Breaking your rest, appeals  
Unto your hearts—  
Like dreams, within you through the quiet night,  
And now burst freshly forth to hail the light.

Ye slumber with the sunset—  
Scarcely doth the day dim—  
Scarcely doth the first star glitter,  
When from your nests you twister  
Your happy respy hymn:  
Like one who, to the woods her lone way wing-  
ing,  
Fills the deep night with her impassioned sing-  
ing.

Solemn are words at midnight,  
When through the heavy shade,  
Scarcely a moonbeam finds  
An entrance where the winds  
Stir through each green arcade;  
But do ye even that soft solitude,  
Where on your rest no mortal may intrude.

And joyful is your waking,  
Amid the sighing breeze,  
In the sweet morn'g hours,  
When smile the opening flowers;  
What want ye more than these?  
Ye seek no praise—your songs are sweetly sung,  
As though a crowd of worshippers stood round.

Ye are the poet's emblem,  
So doth his song grow free—  
So winged and glad his spirit,  
Doth his high gift inherit.  
Fearing its melody  
Beneath clear skies, and if they darken, keeping  
Song ever in his heart, though it be sleeping.

Sleeping, but not forever,  
Still to new life it springs,  
When hope's sweet light doth wake,  
And care and fear are shaken,  
And the dew-drops from its eyelids  
And 'midst the flowers and trees with sunshine  
glistening  
He hath his own reward, though none belist-  
ning.

A Woman's Observations in a Crowded  
Street.

Captain Cuttle, also, as a man of business,  
look to keeping books. In these he enter-  
ed observations on the weather and on the  
currents of the wagons and other vehicles,  
which he observed, in that quarter, to set  
westward in the morning and during the  
greater part of the day, and eastward to-  
wards the evening. Two or three stragglers  
appearing in one week, who "spoke him,"  
so the captain entered it—on the subject  
of spectacles, and who, without positively  
purchasing, said they would look in again,  
the captain decided that the business was  
improving, and made an entry in the day-  
book to that effect: the wind then blowing  
(which he first recorded) pretty fresh, west  
and by north; having changed in the night.

AN ABROGAT HUSBAND: THE FIRST  
WIFE AND THE SECOND.—Towards his first  
wife Mr. Donbey, in his cold and lofty ar-  
rogance, had borne himself like the re-  
mover of being almost conceived himself to be  
He had been "Mr. Donbey" with her  
when she first saw him, and he was "Mr.  
Donbey" when she died. He had asserted  
his greatness during her whole married life,  
and she had meekly recognized it. He had  
kept his distant seat of state on the top of  
his throne, and she her humble station on  
its lowest step; and much good it had done  
him so to live in solitary bondage to his  
own idea. He had imagined that the proud  
character of his second wife would have  
added to his own, would have merged into  
it, and exalted his greatness. He had pic-  
tured himself haughtier than ever, with  
Edith's haughtiness subservient to his. He  
had never entertained the possibility of its  
arraying itself against him. And now,  
when he found it rising in his path at every  
step and turn of his daily life, fixing its  
cold, defiant, and contemptuous face upon  
him, this pride of his, instead of withering  
or hanging down its head beneath the shock,  
put forth new shoots, became more concen-  
trated and intense, more gloomy, sullen,  
irresolute, and unyielding than it had ever  
been before.

Who wears such armour, too, bears with  
him ever another heavy retribution. It is  
proof against conciliation, love, and confi-  
dence; against all gentle sympathy without,  
all trust, all tenderness, all soft emotion;  
but, to deep stabs in the self-love, it is as  
vulnerable as the bare breast to steel; and  
such tormenting furies rankle there as fol-  
low on no other wounds, no, though dealt  
with the mailed hand of Pride itself, on  
vulnerable pride, disarmed and thrown down.

Such wounds were his. He felt them  
sharply in the solitude of his old rooms,  
whither he now began often to retire again  
and pass long solitary hours. It seemed his  
fate to be ever proud and powerful: ever  
humbled and powerless where he would be  
most strong.

To the moody, stubborn, sullen demon  
that possessed him his wife opposed her dif-  
ferent pride in its full force. They never  
could have had a happy life together; but  
nothing could have made it more unhappy  
than the willful and determined warfare of  
such elements. His pride was set upon  
maintaining his magnificent supremacy and  
forcing recognition of it from her. She  
would have been racked to death and have  
turned but her haughty glance of calm in-  
flexible disdain upon him to the last. Such  
recognition from Edith! He little knew  
through what a storm and struggle she had  
been driven onward to the crowning honor  
of his hand. He little knew how much  
she thought she had conceded when she suf-  
fered him to call her wife.

A DEATH AND A BURIAL.—A shadow  
even on that shadowed face, a sharpening  
even of the sharpened features, and a thick-  
ening of the veil before the eyes into a pall  
that shuts out the dim world, is come. Her  
wandering hands upon the coverlet join  
feebly palm to palm, and move towards her  
daughter; and a voice—not like hers, but  
like any voice that speaks our mortal lan-  
guage—says, "For I nursed you!"

Edith, without a tear, kneels down to  
bring her voice closer to the sinking head,  
and answers:

"Mother, can you hear me?"  
Staring wide she strives to nod in an-  
swer.

"Can you recollect the night before I  
married?"

The head is motionless, but it expresses  
somehow that she does.

"I told you then that I forgave your part  
in it, and prayed God to forgive my own.  
I told you that the past was at an end be-  
tween us. I say so now, again. Kiss me,  
mother."

Edith touches the white lips, and for a  
moment all is still. A moment afterwards  
her mother, with her girlish laugh and the  
skeleton of the Cleopatra manner, rises in  
her bed.

Draw the rose-colored curtains. There  
is something else upon its flight beside the  
wind and clouds. Draw the rose-colored  
curtains close.

Intelligence of the event is sent to Mr.  
Donbey in town, who waits upon Cousin  
Feenix, (not yet able to make up his mind  
for Baden-Baden,) who has just received it  
too. A good-natured creature like Cousin  
Feenix is the very man for a marriage or a  
funeral, and his position in the family ren-  
ders it right that he should be consulted.

"Donbey," says Cousin Feenix "upon  
my soul, I am very much shocked to see  
you on such a melancholy occasion. My  
poor aunt! She was a devilish lively wo-  
man."

"Mr. Donbey replies, "Very much so."  
"And made up," says Cousin Feenix,  
really young, you know, considering. I am  
sure, on the day of your marriage, I thought  
she was good for another twenty years.  
In point of fact, I said so to a man at Brooks's  
—little Billy Joper—you know him, no  
doubt—man with a glass in his eye?"

Mr. Donbey bows a negative. "In  
reference to the obsequies," he hints, "wheth-  
er there is any suggestion—"

"Well, upon my life," says Cousin Feenix,  
stroking his chin, which he had just  
enough hand below his wristbands to do;  
"I really don't know. There's a mauve  
um down at my place, in the park, but I'm  
afraid it's in bad repair, and, in point of  
fact, in a devil of a state. But for being a  
little out at elbows I should have had it put  
to rights; but I believe the people come  
and make pic-nic parties there inside the  
railings."

There's an uncommon good church in the  
village," says Cousin Feenix, thoughtfully;  
"pure specimen of the Anglo-Norman style,  
and admirably well sketched too by Lady  
Jane Finchbury—woman with tight stays,  
but they've spoilt it with whitewash, I un-  
derstand, and it's a long journey."

"Perhaps Brighton itself," Mr. Donbey  
suggests.

"Upon my honor, Donbey, I don't think  
we could do better," says Cousin Feenix.  
"If on the spot, you see, and a very cheer-  
ful place."

"And when," hints Mr. Donbey, "would  
it be convenient?"

"I shall make a point," says Cousin Feenix,  
"of pledging myself for any day you  
think best. I shall have great pleasure  
(melancholy pleasure, of course) in follow-  
ing my dear aunt to the confines of the—  
in point of fact, to the grave," says Cousin  
Feenix, failing in the other turn of speech.

"Would Monday do for leaving town?"  
says Mr. Donbey.

"Monday would suit me to perfection,"  
replies Cousin Feenix. Therefore Mr.  
Donbey arranges to take Cousin Feenix  
down on that day, and presently takes his  
leave, attended to the stairs by Cousin Feenix,  
who, says, at parting, "I'm really ex-  
cessively sorry, Donbey, that you should  
have so much trouble about it;" to which  
Mr. Donbey answers, "Not at all."

At the appointed time Cousin Feenix and  
Mr. Donbey meet and go down to Brighton,  
and representing in their two selves, all the  
other mourners for the deceased lady's loss,  
attended her remains to their place of rest.

Cousin Feenix, sitting in the mourning-  
coach, recognizes innumerable acquaintances  
on the road, but takes no other notice of  
them, in decorum, than checking them off  
aloud, as they go by, for Mr. Donbey's in-  
formation, as "Tom Johnson. Man with  
cork legs, from White's. What are you  
here, Tommy?" Foley on a blood mare.  
The Smaller gipsy"—and so forth. At the  
ceremony Cousin Feenix is depressed, ob-  
servant that these are the occasions to make  
a man think, in point of fact, that he is get-  
ting shaky; and his eyes are really moist-  
ened, when it is over. But